

CHILDREN DIE:

HOW?

WHY?

WHAT CAN WE DO?

Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention
Grantee Training

The Alabama Child Death Review System (ACDRS)

Aretha D. Bracy
Director

The ACDRS Mission

To understand how and why children die in Alabama in order to prevent future child deaths.

Focus on Prevention

- The primary purpose of ACDRS...
 - ... is *prevention*.
 - ... is NOT prosecution.
 - ... is NOT oversight.
 - ... is NOT criticism.

CDR History Nationwide

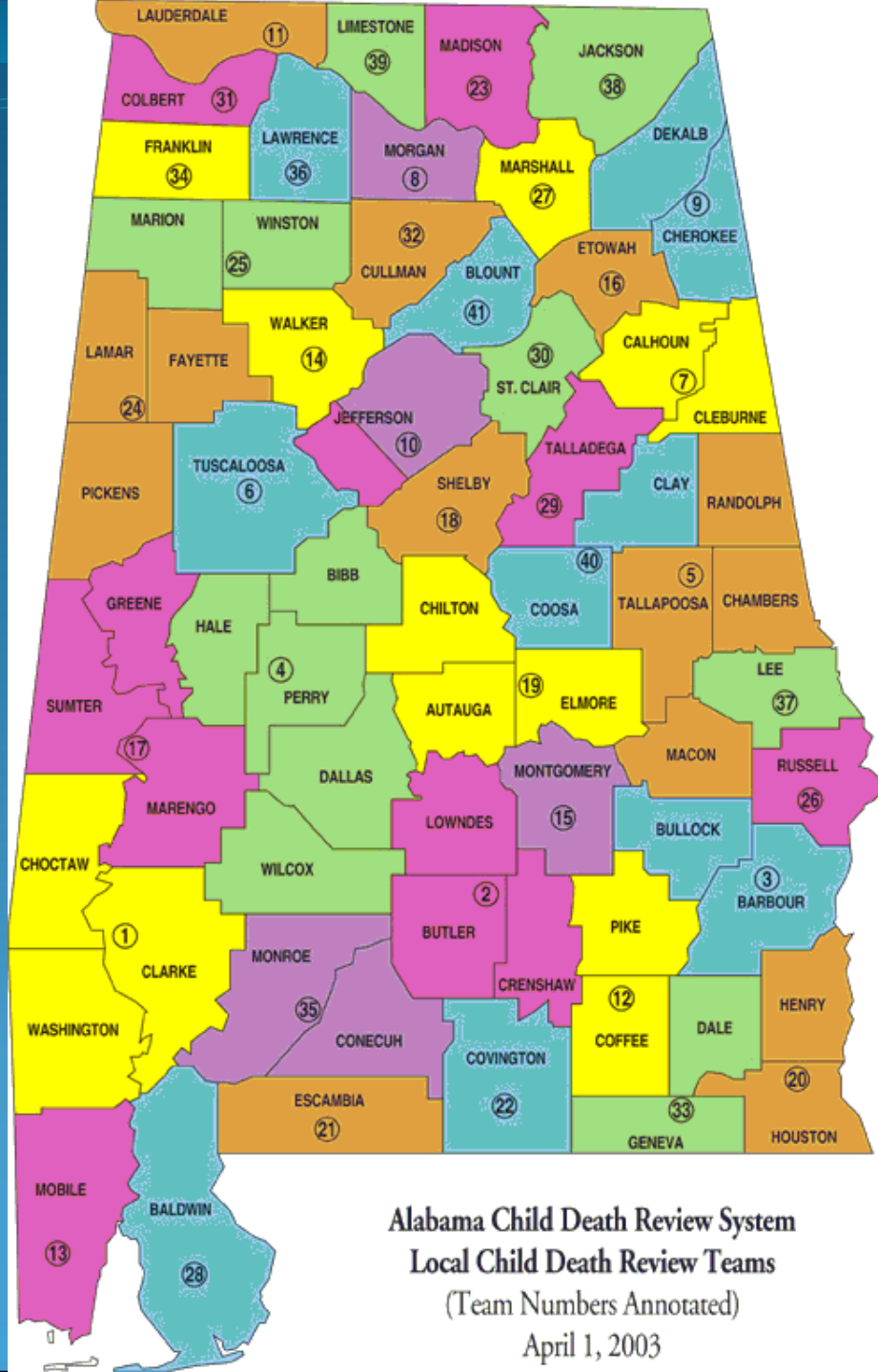
- 1978 – Local teams begin in Los Angeles, Oregon, and North Carolina to better identify child abuse
- 1980s – Teams expand to other states
- 1990s – Improve reviews through several initiatives
- 2000s – Integration of CDR and FIMR
 - National Reporting System launched
 - Federal Legislation introduced to support CDR
- Today - 50 State CDR Programs

ACDRS State Law

- Signed on September 11, 1997
- Created ACDRS & State & Local Child Death Review (CDR) Teams
- Tasks:
 - Review
 - Educate
 - Prevent

Structure

- State office
 - Alabama Department of Public Health
 - Three full-time staff
- Local Child Death Review Teams
 - 42 multidisciplinary teams of professionals statewide
 - Meet at least annually/based upon caseload
- State Child Death Review Team
 - 28-member multidisciplinary team of professionals
 - Meets quarterly



Alabama Child Death Review System
 Local Child Death Review Teams
 (Team Numbers Annotated)
 April 1, 2003

Operation

- Death certificates
 - All child death certificates reviewed at state level
 - Deaths meeting criteria assigned to appropriate local team
- Local reviews
 - Deaths meeting criteria reviewed in-depth by local teams
 - Completed case reports submitted back to state office

Official Manners of Death

- Natural Causes
- Accidental
- Suicide
- Homicide
- Undetermined

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ALABAMA CERTIFICATE OF DEATH State
File Number 101 2013-12

1. DECEASED LEGAL NAME [REDACTED]		2. DATE AND TIME OF DEATH [REDACTED]	
3. ALIAS NAME (IF ANY) None Given		4. DATE AND TIME PRONOUNCED DEAD [REDACTED]	
5. COUNTY OF DEATH [REDACTED]	6. CITY, TOWN OR LOCATION OF DEATH AND ZIP [REDACTED]	7. PLACE OF DEATH [REDACTED]	
8. HISPANIC ORIGIN No	9. RACE White	10. SEX Male	11. SERVED IN ARMED FORCES No
12. AGE MONTHS DAYS HRS MINS [REDACTED]	13. DATE OF BIRTH [REDACTED]	14. STATE OF BIRTH Alabama	15. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER [REDACTED]
16. MARITAL STATUS Never Married	17. SURVIVING SPOUSE [REDACTED]		18. RESIDENCE STATE Alabama
19. RESIDENCE COUNTY [REDACTED]	20. CITY, TOWN OR LOCATION AND ZIP [REDACTED]	21. STREET ADDRESS [REDACTED]	
22. INFORMANT NAME, RELATIONSHIP AND ADDRESS [REDACTED]		23. OCCUPATION student	
		24. BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY education	
25. FATHER'S NAME [REDACTED]		26. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME [REDACTED]	
27. DISPOSITION OF BODY Burial	28. DATE OF DISPOSITION [REDACTED]	29. CEMETERY OR CREMATORY [REDACTED]	30. LOCATION [REDACTED]
31. FUNERAL HOME NAME AND ADDRESS [REDACTED]			32. LICENSE NUMBER [REDACTED]
33. FUNERAL DIRECTOR [REDACTED]		34. LICENSE NUMBER [REDACTED]	35. DATE SIGNED [REDACTED]
36. MEDICAL CERTIFICATION: _____ CERTIFYING PHYSICIAN _____ MEDICAL EXAMINER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CORONER			
37. NAME [REDACTED]		38. LICENSE NUMBER [REDACTED]	39. DATE SIGNED [REDACTED]
40. ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO COMPLETED CAUSE OF DEATH [REDACTED]			
41. REGISTRAR Catherine Molchan Donald			42. DATE FILED [REDACTED]
CAUSE OF DEATH			
43. PART I. DISEASES, INJURIES OR COMPLICATIONS THAT CAUSED DEATH		INTERVAL Minutes	
IMMEDIATE CAUSE A. Multiple Blunt Force injuries DUE TO (OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF):	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]
UNDERLYING CAUSE B. _____ DUE TO (OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF):	[REDACTED]		
	C. _____ DUE TO (OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF):		
	D. _____		
44. PART II. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH [REDACTED]			
45. MANNER OF DEATH Accident	46. PREGNANCY IN LAST 45 DAYS No	47. AUTOPSY No	48. FINDINGS CONSIDERED [REDACTED]
49. DATE AND TIME OF INJURY [REDACTED]			
50. HOW INJURY OCCURRED Passenger in motor vehicle which left roadway and hit a tree			
51. INJURY AT WORK No	52. PLACE OF INJURY County Roadway	53. LOCATION OF INJURY [REDACTED]	

RECEIVED
APR 24 2013
BY ACDRS

ACDRS
REVIEW Veh

36.

MEDICAL CERTIFICATION:

____ CERTIFYING PHYSICIAN

____ MEDICAL EXAMINER

☒ CORONER

37. NAME

38. LICENSE NUMBER

39. DATE SIGNED

40. ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO COMPLETED CAUSE OF DEATH

41. REGISTRAR

Catherine Molchan Donald

42. DATE FILED

CAUSE OF DEATH

43. PART I. DISEASES, INJURIES OR COMPLICATIONS THAT CAUSED DEATH

IMMEDIATE
CAUSEA. **Multiple Blunt Force injuries**
DUE TO (OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF):UNDERLYING
CAUSEB. _____
DUE TO (OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF):C. _____
DUE TO (OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF):

D. _____

INTERVAL

Minutes

44. PART II. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH

45. MANNER OF DEATH

Accident

46. PREGNANCY IN
LAST 42 DAYS

No

47. AUTOPSY

No

48. FINDINGS CONSIDERED

49. DATE AND TIME OF INJURY

50. HOW INJURY OCCURRED

Passenger in motor vehicle which left roadway and hit a tree

51. INJURY AT WORK

No

52. PLACE OF INJURY

County Roadway

53. LOCATION OF INJURY

Operation

- Local reviews
 - Qualifying deaths are reviewed in-depth by local teams
 - District Attorney or designee
 - Local Coroner and/or Medical Examiner
 - Law Enforcement (local, county, & state)
 - Fire and/or EMS
 - Local Healthcare Provider
 - State Government: ADPH, DHR, DMH
 - Local CAC representative
 - Probate or Family Court representative
 - Educators
 - Others (clergy)
- Completed case reports submitted back to state office

Operation

- Data collection & analysis
 - Completed case reports from local teams compiled into database
 - Database queried as needed for specific data & reports
 - Database analyzed annually for reporting purposes

CDR Case Reporting System

- Funded by MCHB / HRSA / HHS
- Most US states use the reporting system
- Comprehensive multipurpose collection tool
- Secure and confidential
- Web-based
- No special software required
- Programmers available at the National Center for ongoing assistance



Center for Fatality Review & Prevention

For additional
information and help
with your login contact
us:

NCFRP
1115 Massachusetts
Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20005
1-800-656-2434

Email:
info@childdeathreview.org

Web site:
www.childdeathreview.org

**We are a National
Resource Center
Supporting Child Death
Review in States and
Communities**

Saving Lives Together



Login to the CDR Case Reporting System

User name

Password

Log in

[I Forgot My Password](#)

Child Death Review (CDR) leads to a better understanding of how and why children die and catalyzes actions to prevent other deaths. The National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention, in collaboration with state CDR programs, developed and manages this web-based reporting system. Users of this system can enter CDR case review data so that their findings can be tabulated at the local, state and national level. Findings from these reviews guide program, service and policy efforts to keep children safe, healthy and alive.

If you are not currently a registered user, please contact info@childdeathreview.org for information on enrolling your state and local teams into the system.

Funding for the NCFRP is provided in large part by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (Title V Social Security Act), Health Resources Services Administration, US Department of Health and Human Services.

Operation

- Reports & recommendations
 - Annual Report published with analysis of most recent available complete data
 - Recommendations made to the Governor, Legislators, and the general public based upon analyzed data



ALABAMA CHILD DEATH REVIEW SYSTEM REPORT

REPORT FOR COMPLETED 2010-2011 DATA

Learning from the Past to Protect the Future...

Alabama State Child Death Review Team
Formal Recommendations – Adopted November 13, 2015

Vehicular deaths are the leading category of preventable deaths to Alabama children less than eighteen years of age reviewed by the Alabama Child Death Review System and, in fact, account for between one-third and one-half of all such deaths in any given year.

The State Child Death Review Team recommends:

- Comprehensive statewide awareness and education campaigns related to teen driver safety and child passenger safety
- Enhancement of the current Graduated Driver's License (GDL) Law by increasing the limitations on late-hour driving by graduated licensees and reconsidering the current exemptions
- Enhancement of child passenger restraint laws in accordance with the latest AAP recommendations
- Promotion of the use of parent-teen driver contracts and log books
- Establishment of a minimum age to operate All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)
- Safety training requirements for ATV operators
- Prohibition of passengers from ATVs
- Prohibition of passengers from open truck beds on public roads

Infant sleep-related deaths are the second-leading category of preventable deaths to Alabama children less than eighteen years of age reviewed by the Alabama Child Death Review System and are by far the most likely cases to be misdiagnosed as to their manners and causes.

The State Child Death Review Team recommends:

- Expansion of statewide safe infant sleep awareness and education campaigns
- Adherence to the protocols developed by the Alabama Sudden Unexplained Infant Death Investigation (SUIDI) Team

Fatality prevention and injury prevention are closely related. Access to fatality data has proven essential to the accurate collection and analysis of fatality data required for effective fatality prevention efforts. At the same time, limited access to injury data in Alabama has been a significant barrier to injury prevention funding and efforts.

The State Child Death Review Team recommends:

- Securing access to comprehensive injury data in Alabama for the ADPH Injury Prevention Branch

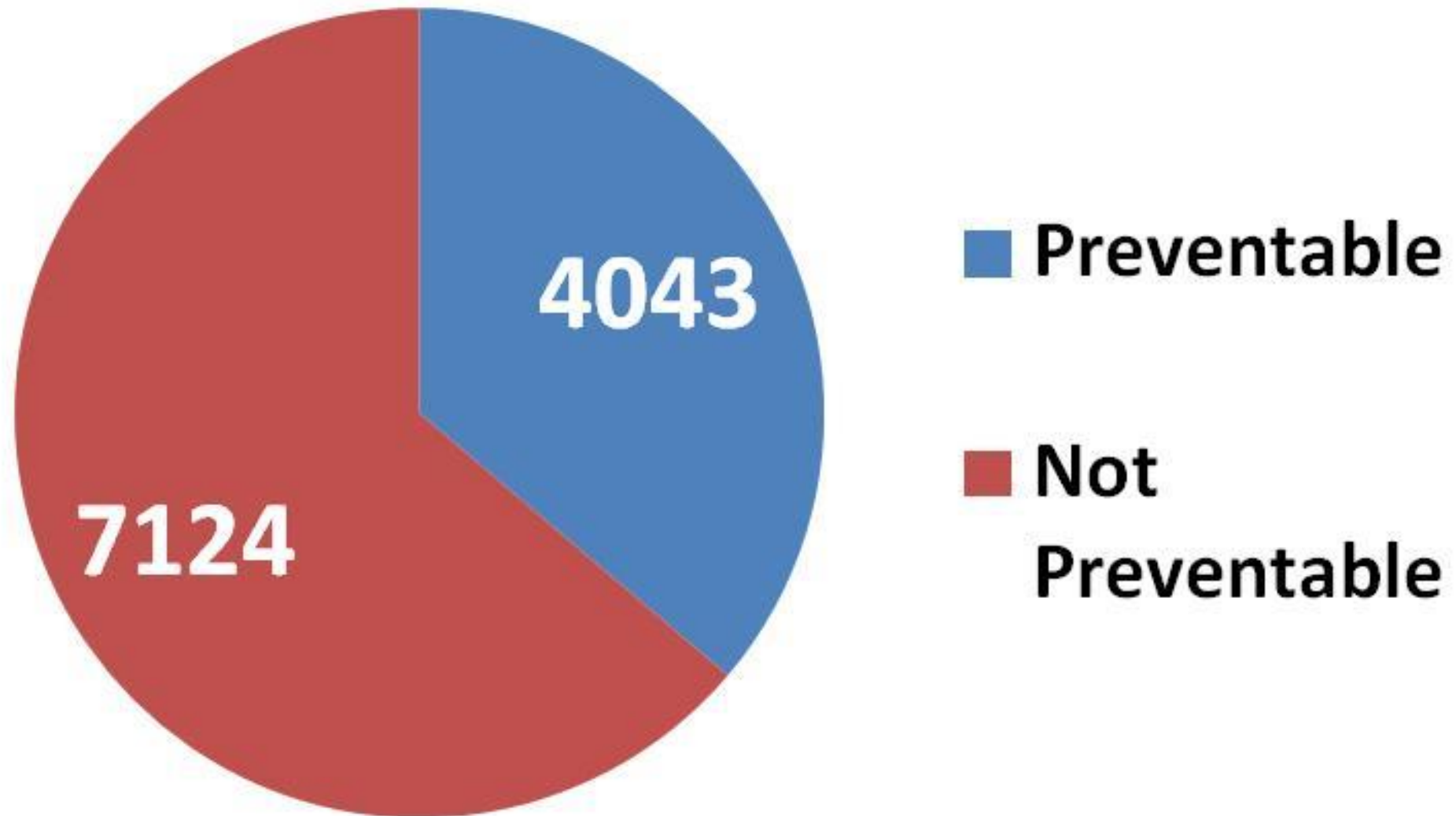
ACDRS Recommendations

- Based upon CDR findings
- May include:
 - Legislation
 - Policy & procedure
 - Education & awareness

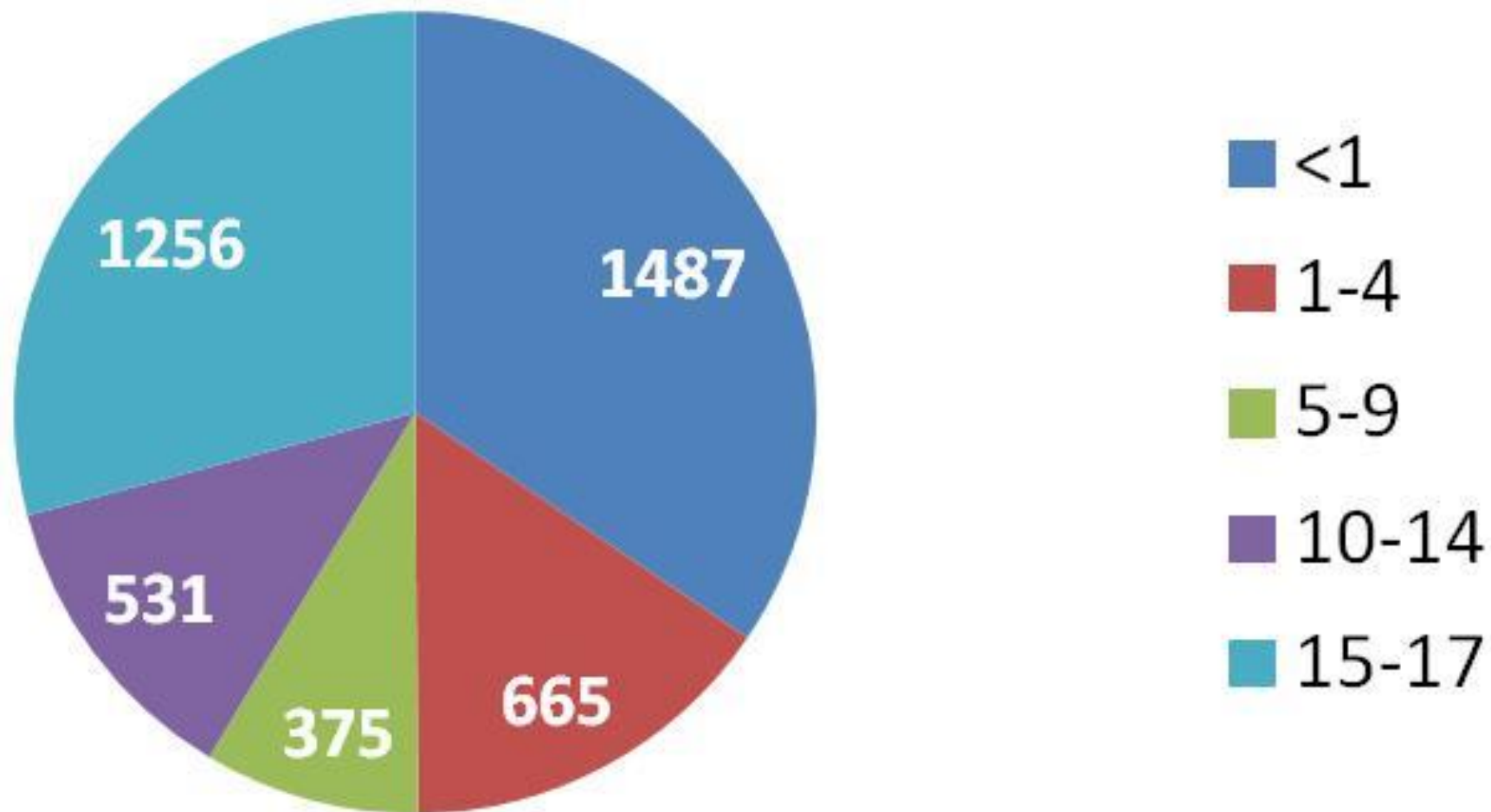
Recommendation Issues

- Improved child death investigations
- Child passenger safety
- Truck bed passengers
- ATV safety
- Infant safe sleep best practices
- Smoke & CO detectors
- Swimming area safety/regulations

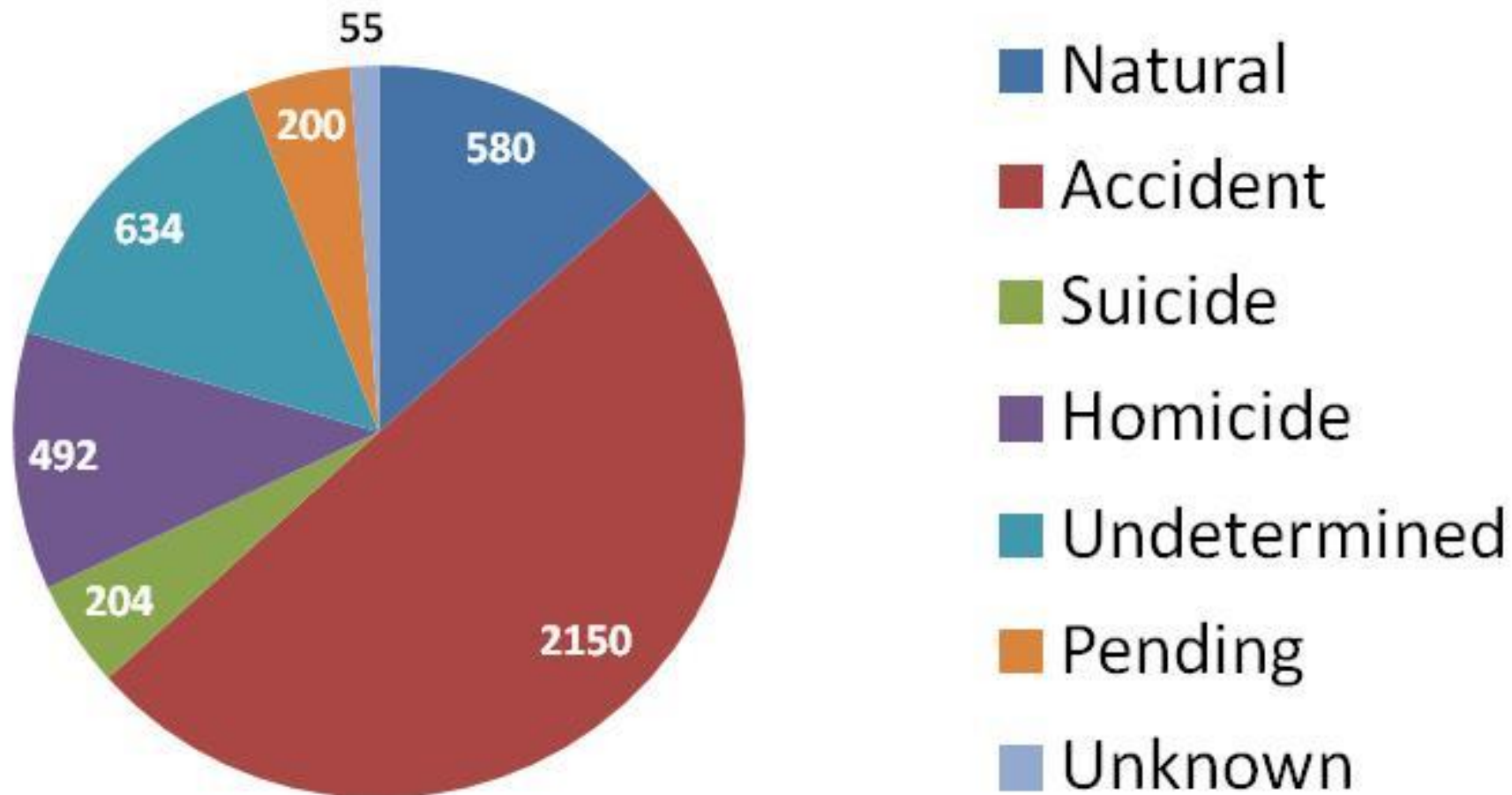
Child Deaths in AL from 2000 to 2013



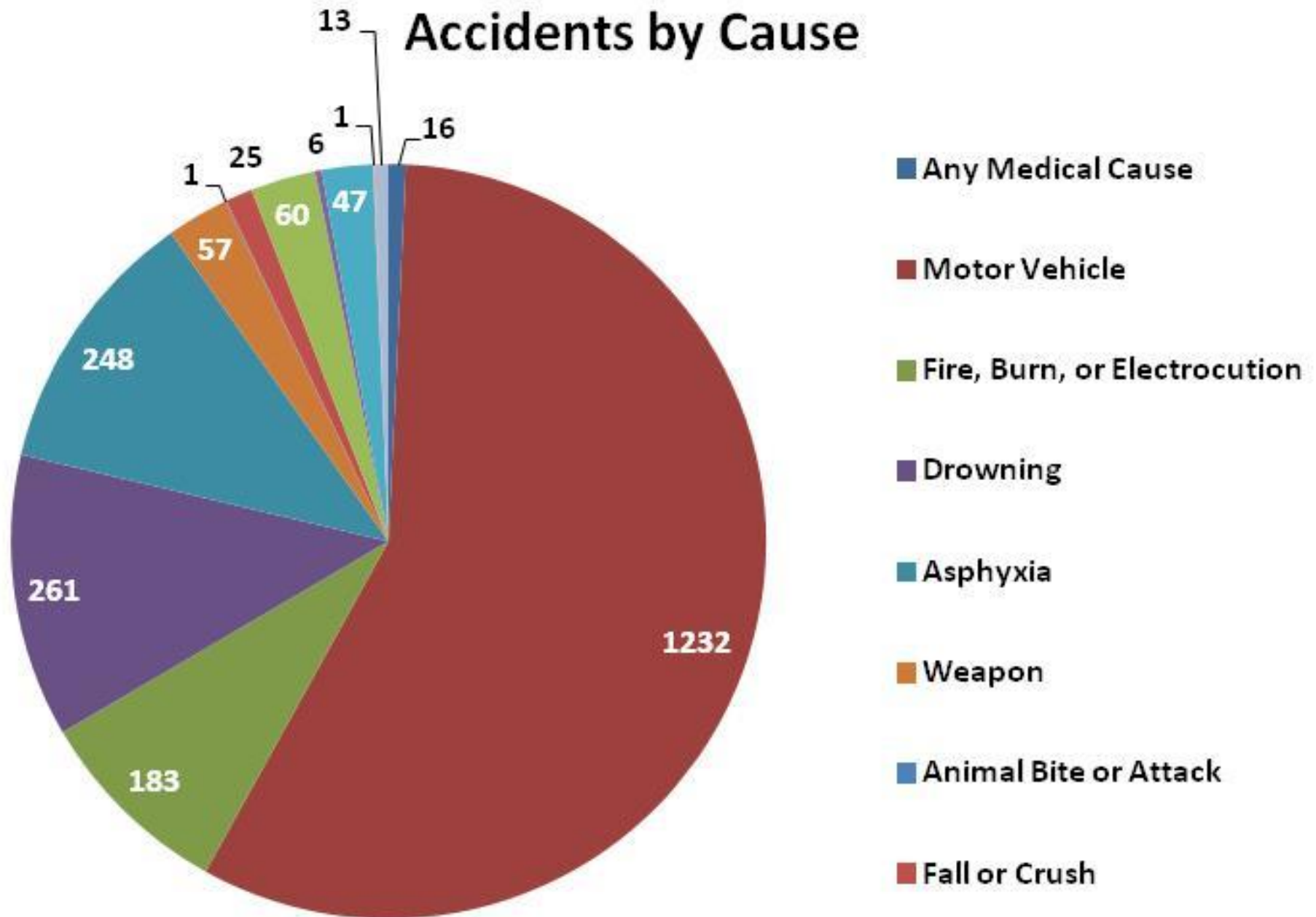
Preventable AL Child Deaths Reviewed by Age



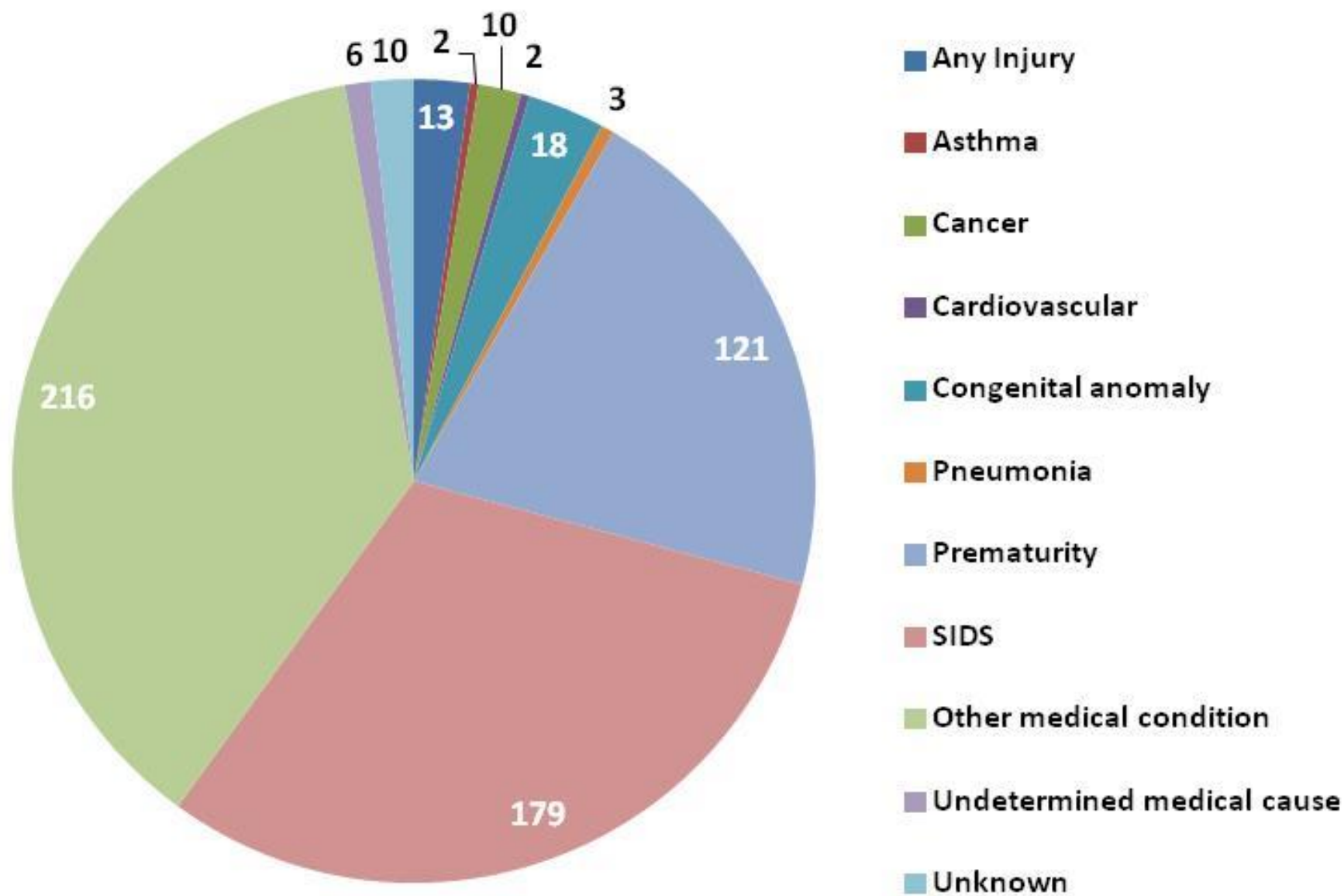
Preventable AL Child Deaths Reviewed by Manner



Accidents by Cause



Natural by Cause



Awareness, Education, and Prevention

- Awareness
 - Basic knowledge
- Education
 - Greater knowledge and detail
- Prevention
 - Behavior change

Child Vehicular Deaths

- Passenger-specific strategies
 - Restraint Laws and Education
 - Car Seat Distribution and Clinics
- Driver-specific strategies
 - Graduated Driver License Laws
 - Parent-Teen Driver Contracts
 - Narrowly-Focused Outreach

Infant Sleep Related Deaths

Prevention Efforts

- Cribs For Kids
- CPSC Efforts (Recalls)
- “Safe To Sleep” Campaigns
- COIIN Efforts

Child Suicide and Homicide

- School-based programs
- Gatekeeper training
 - Adults
 - Peers
- Bullying interventions
- Means reduction
- Mental Health and SEC approaches

Child Drownings

- Everyone should learn life-saving skills
 - Swimming / floating
 - CPR
- Four-sided fencing
- Life-vests and flotation devices
- Strong supervision around any water

Child Fire-Related Deaths

- Working smoke detectors
- Family emergency / escape plans
- Safe cooking practices
- Safe home heat
- Fire extinguishers

Results We Hope To See

- More Scene Investigations
- Better Scene Investigations
- More Accurate Death Diagnoses
- More Accurate Trend Analysis
- Better Prevention Efforts
- Fewer Child Deaths



Questions?

Thank you!

aretha.bracy@adph.state.al.us

www.adph.org/cdr

334-206-2953